



TGSA Board Meeting Agenda

Date: April 7th, 2022 (Thursday)

Start time: 3:00 pm **End time:** 5:13 pm

Location: Zoom Conference

Chair: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay

Scribe: Via Zoom Recording

Attendance: Sebastian Johnston-Lindsay, Melissa Miller-Gerrard, Stephanie Gao, Tanya Aminataei, Richard Moore, Devon Moore, Emma Kaszecki, William Kim, Gabriella Peters, Jordan MacDonald, Conner Elverson, Madison Moore, Cheryl Mitchell

Absence with regrets: Alison Fraser

Absence without Regrets:

1. Presentation(s) and Discussion (s) without voting

Introduction and updates from board members

2. Call to Order

We respectfully acknowledge that we are on the treaty and traditional territory of the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg. We offer our gratitude to the First Peoples for their care for, and teachings about, our earth and our relations. May we honour those teachings.

3. Adopt the Agenda:

Mover: Devon

Second: Melissa

Discussion

Approve: All

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 0

4. Past Meeting Minutes

Adopt the Minutes from Summarized Minutes from March 3rd, 2022, Board Meeting

Mover: Devon

Second: Gabriella

Discussion

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 3

5. Presentation(s) and Discussion (s) with/without motions

a.) President - Sebastian

Motions:

Equity Commissioner

Motion to acclaim Alison MacMillan to the position of Equity Commissioner.

Mover: Richard

Second: Melissa

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Discussion: None

Vice President Communications

Motion to acclaim Sarah Rayner to the position of Vice President Communications.

Mover: Melissa

Second: Tanya

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

Discussion: None

Sebastian was on the hiring committee for VP Research and Innovation. Kathy Bruce was hired into the role. On Sunday, Sebastian handed out the \$500 award at the 3MT competition. Attended the final student leader meeting of the year and introduced Emma to various college representatives for continuity.

Sebastian met with the Acting Dean of Graduate Studies (James Connolly) with Emma to help with her transition.

Should be further discussion on the allocation of space for students who exceed their funding period.

b.) VP Senate – Devon

Devon is currently focusing on talking to the Peterborough Examiner on nepotism at Trent University.

Concerns about how research is managed across all disciplines. The policy now discusses management on STEM based research. This has been raised to Tri Council to review data management amongst other areas. Who is responsible for data management if the two parties are the graduate student and supervisor? The survey for data management will be made mandatory for faculty who wishes to apply for a Tri-Council grant. The past senate meeting was discussion on new degrees and new programs. The new M.Sc. Anthropology has been approved that won't require extra supervisory capacity. A M.A Anthropology candidate can convert to a M.Sc with the permission of a committee after revision on qualification.

Report from Board of Governors came to the end of Senate meeting that entails that the university has set \$0 for the 2022-2023 academic year. This means that reserves for masks and hand sanitizers will not be replenished. Universities will be scored by department based on student enrollment and funding is allocated based on this. Enrollment metrics between Durham and the Symons campus are separate.

The university is preparing a fiscally normal year starting September 2022. Therefore, the proposal that the acting Dean of Graduate studies, James Connolly is preparing for the Board of Governors will be passed onto to Craig, who may not support this.

Social sciences and humanities fields are under pressure to have their students graduate on time due to lack of funding compared to STEM-related disciplines.

Devon suggests another senate position on the Board, a notice should be sent out as a call for nominations.

c.) Upcoming President – Emma

Met with various contacts with Sebastian to prepare for her position. Emma has as meeting with food services. Her contact Shelly will also attend. Emma will receive a report about how much emission students are emitting. Many students have vocalized the issue with cups at Starbucks. The initial document should be a declaration that any student membership or board can sign and commit to being sustainable at the school, as well as showing that they're committed to climate change. The second report will be the open letter to Trent.

d.) VP Student Affairs – Gabriella

Planned and contacted the Ceilie for arrangements during the day of the event. Care packages for the spring is set for this month for distribution.

e.) Equity Commissioner – Tanya

Tanya has been working with a lady from the Trent Consent group and hopes to connect with the TGSA and wants branch over to graduate students. Tanya will connect the contact to the incoming equity commissioner and president.

f.) Cultural Studies Rep – Richard Moore

Noticed that the 1st year cohort leans towards a larger male presence. Could potentially be a varying number of applications that differ year to year.

g.) Madison

Madison suggests to restructure the programs for incoming students.

6. Updates from CUPE

7. Student Support Co-Ordinator – Connor Elverson

Motion:

Approval of financial statements for 2017-18, 2018-19, and 2019-20.

2017-18:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pqADK79liwC2oyau5Lh3ZhKNMEdf55O4/view?usp=sharing>

2018-19:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/136xoILilRSgQJaDudK1-8t0t_-LHn72D/view?usp=sharing

2019-20

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eeLuUz23_-kPVLzkWxWECngNXz5vTzGR/view?usp=sharing

Mover: Gabriella

Second: Devon

Discussion

Approve: 12

Oppose: 0

Abstain: 1

8. Question Period and Departmental Issues

9. Business Arising from the Minutes

10. Motions

11. Other Business

12. Notices of Motions and Announcements

- a. The next board meeting will be held on May 4th at 6:00 pm
- b. The reports and motions for that meeting are due April 31st, 2022

13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

Mover: Jordan

Second: Melissa

Addendum I
Executive Reports

Sebastian (President):

This month has primarily been taken up by attending various meetings representing the TGSA and helping to get ready for the final events of the year.

I was involved in the hiring committee for the new Vice President, Research and Innovation. As many of you will now have seen, Dr. Cathy Bruce will continue in the role after serving as the Acting VPRI for the past 17 months.

At the time of writing this report, there are a few significant things upcoming:

On April 3rd, I will hand out the TGSA Prize for the 3MT competition, which I hope will continue to be done moving forward.

I will also be attending the final Student Leaders meeting of the year on April 5th alongside the incoming President. Then on April 6th, we will be meeting with James Conolly to ensure a smooth transition between Executives.

Moving forward, I will continue to ensure that the transition period goes smoothly. I have received all Executive and Commissioner Transition documents and myself and the other Executives have signed off on them. I sent out these documents to the incoming executive and a copy has been saved in the President's folder in the Google Drive as well as the individual folders of each portfolio. Honorariums will be paid out once both the incoming member has

acknowledged its receipt and suitability, and each current executive member has signed off on it.

It has been a pleasure serving as the President of the TGSA over the past year. Thank you to everyone who has served on the Board. I wish all the incoming Executive and Board members well moving forward and look forward to seeing what comes next for the TGSA!

Devon (VP Senate): -

Gabriella (VP Student Affairs):-

- The “Growing Your Mindset” event took place at the beginning of the month and was a great success. Sebastian and I brought the plants, pots and potting supplies to the Student Centre, while Active Minds took care of the mental health resources and paint supplies. Our event was at full capacity and all our plants and pots were given out. Some of the people who registered for the event did not show up, so we opened up the event to people who were passing by. We had great interest in the event, and unfortunately had to turn some people away because there was not enough supplies. The feedback we got from event attendees, as well as people who were passing by and stopped in to check the event out, was really good. People only had good things to say, which was really exciting! This was definitely one of our best events so far.
- Last week we put out an announcement for our Spring Care Packages. In just a few days we reached the cap on sign-ups. Anticipating that we would reach full capacity, the TGSA exec went care package shopping last week. We went to Costco and the dollar store and picked up a variety of snacks, self care items and stationery. We have TGSA swag in our office that we also included into the care packages. Distribution will take place on April 14th from 11am-4pm.
- Our end of year event is called “Grad’s Night Out: a night to escape your research” which will be taking place on April 8th at The Celie located in Champlain College. We will be contact tracing at the door and emphasizing that masks must be worn when not eating and drinking. The main event of this night will be Trivia, that Sarah Cambell, a history

graduate student, will be running. There will be a \$50 prize for the group who wins Trivia. As for food, the TGSA will be giving people a coupon for one free appetizer that they can use at The Celie and we will be paying that tab at the end of the night. People have the option to purchase their own drinks or dessert. There will also be door prizes to be won, we have purchased three great gifts from Costco: an Umbra desk organization kit, two cordless NutriBullet Blenders and a wok with a built in steamer. We are setting up a small photo booth with small TGSA balloons as decor, and getting a few simple green balloons for decor near the entrance. Our capacity for this event is 70 people and we have capped registration. I am interested in seeing how many people show up for the event.

Stephanie – VP Communications

Over the last month, I've been creating a few posters for event's Gabriella creatively came up with! This includes, the potting event, the Grads Night Out event, and the Care Packages. I have been monitoring my emails to update the attendees list daily and sending out reminder emails about confirmation. The rest of the execs and I went out shopping for care package materials and put them together. The second last event hosted by the TGSA is on Friday and I'm excited to see the turnout!

Addendum II **Commissioner Reports**

Emma – Environmental Commissioner

Tanya – Equity Commissioner

Addendum III

